

Message Text

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10
ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-02 PPT-01 SCA-01 SCS-03

AID-05 /037 W
----- 073656

P R 300730Z SEP 76
FM AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
AMEMBASSY ATHENS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DHAHRAN 1234
FOR CHARGE
E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: ASCH, CVIS, CASC, SA
SUBJECT: DHAHRAN ACADEMY VISAS

REF: JIDDA 6444

1. MANY THANKS FROM DHAHRAN ACADEMY BOARD, ADMINISTRATION
AND PARENTS (AND PARTICULARLY FERVENT ONES FROM CONGEN STAFF
WHO HAVE HAD TO FACE SCORES OF IRATE PARENTS ON THIS SUBJECT) FOR
EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING LONG-AWAITED VISA APPROVALS FOR
ACADEMY TEACHERS.

2. ACADEMY SUPERINTENDENT GILES ATTEMPTING TO TELEPHONE
CONSUL GREEN TO ASSIST IN DIRECTING VISA AUTHORIZATIONS
TO APPROPRIATE SAUDI EMBASSIES. GILES IS ALSO IN CONTACT WITH
TEACHERS IN ATHENS BY TELEPHONE AND TWA TELEX.

3. BELIEVE WE MUST BEGIN NOW TO WORK OUT BETTER VISA-APPLICATION
PROCEDURE FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR. PERHAPS BEST SOLUTION IS TO
REMOVE OURSELVES COMPLETELY FROM THE PROCEDURE AND SUGGEST
THAT ACADEMY SUBMIT ITS VISA REQUESTS DIRECTLY TO SAUDI
ARABIAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS (SAIS) FOR PROCESSING. SAIS
DIRECTOR GENERAL ADNAN AL KHALIDY HAS INDICATED HIS
WILLINGNESS TO ASSUME THIS RESPONSIBILITY. ACADEMY ADMINISTRATION
HAD EARLIER HESITATED TO GET THAT INVOLVED WITH SAIS
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(ON GROUNDS THAT SAIS WOULD PROBABLY PROVIDE A NEW,

CUMBERSOME ADMINISTRATIVE LAYER ABOVE THE SCHOOLS AND FEW IF ANY COMPENSATING BENEFITS SUCH AS SOLID OFFERS ON LAND, BUILDINGS OR FUNDS). ACADEMY THINKING HAS CHANGED CONSIDERABLY ON THAT SCORE, HOWEVER, PARTIALLY AS RESULT OF REPORTED DONATION BY SAIS OF BUILDINGS TO JIDDA AND RIYADH SCHOOLS.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S THOUGHTS ON PROCEDURE WE SHOULD FOLLOW CONCERNING FUTURE VISA REQUESTS FOR AMERICAN TEACHERS AT DHAHRAN ACADEMY. IN CONSIDERING NEW PROCEDURE, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF EMBASSY COULD DETERMINE REAL REASON FOR THE MANY MONTHS OF DELAY THIS TIME.

5. WE WILL REPORT BY SEPTTEL ON OUR MEETINGS DURING NEXT FEW DAYS WITH US BUSINESS LEADERS AND SAUDI OFFICIALS IN EASTERN PROVINCE ON VISA PROBLEMS IN GENERAL.

6. FOR ATHENS AND DEPARTMENT: OUR THANKS ALSO FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE. ATHENS, PLEASE INFORM TEACHERS THEY ARE EAGERLY AWAITED AND WILL BE WARMLY WELCOMED BY THE ACADEMY AND COMMUNITY.
BUSHNELL

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